

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated April 22, 2008 has been received and its contents have been carefully reviewed.

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Matsumoto et al.* (US 6,502,947) and further in view of *Cobb, Jr et al* (4,984,144).

Claims 19-28 are allowed.

Claims 8-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application for further consideration. All claims remain original. No new claims have been added. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration in view of the remarks presented herein below.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Matsumoto et al.* and further in view of *Cobb, Jr et al.* Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections as being based upon references that neither teach nor suggest the combination of features cited by independent claim 1, and hence dependent claims 2-7.

With respect to independent claim 1, *Matsumoto et al.* in view of *Cobb, Jr et al.* does not disclose a combination comprising the vertical angle of the prism rows being 80 to 120°, the difference in the angle of inclination between said first region and said second region

being 5 to 20°. The Office Action admits that *Matsumoto et al.* does not disclose this feature. As a result, the Office Action asserts that *Cobb* discloses a light emitting device with such an arrangement of prism and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of *Matsumoto* with the prism shapes of *Cobb* for the purpose of providing *Matsumoto* with a predetermined light output of a desired brightness caused by internal reflection of the light resulting from the shapes of the prism in the prism plate. Applicants respectfully disagree. *Cobb, Jr et al.* teaches that the cross-section of the prisms form isosceles triangles having an angle of approximately 69°; the prisms have four exposed faces. Further, *Cobb, Jr et al.* claims "said first and second sides making an angle in the range of 59 to 79 degrees with one another." (see claim 3) However, in neither embodiments *Cobb, Jr et al.* teaches or suggests that the vertical angle of the prism rows is 80 to 120°. In fact, it appears that *Cobb, Jr et al.* teaches away from the claimed configuration.

Because *Matsumoto et al.* and *Cobb, Jr et al.*, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each feature of independent claim 1, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn. Further, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 2-18 are allowable at least because of their dependencies from independent claim 1, and the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments, reconsideration, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this Response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

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If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 6, 2008

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